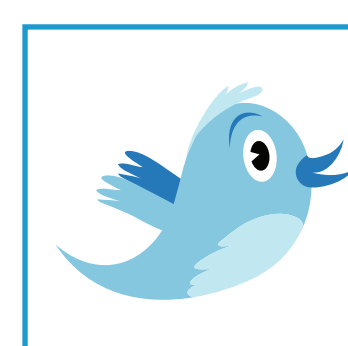


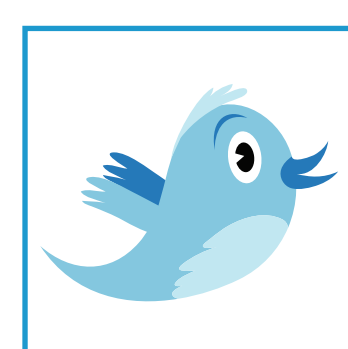
In April 2009, political and civic events in Moldova captured the world's attention as real-time news was being conveyed using Twitter



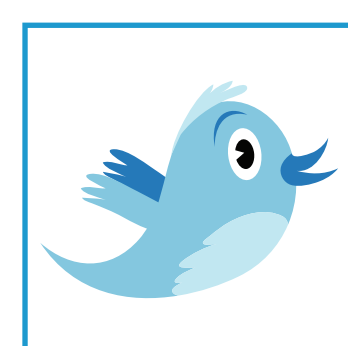
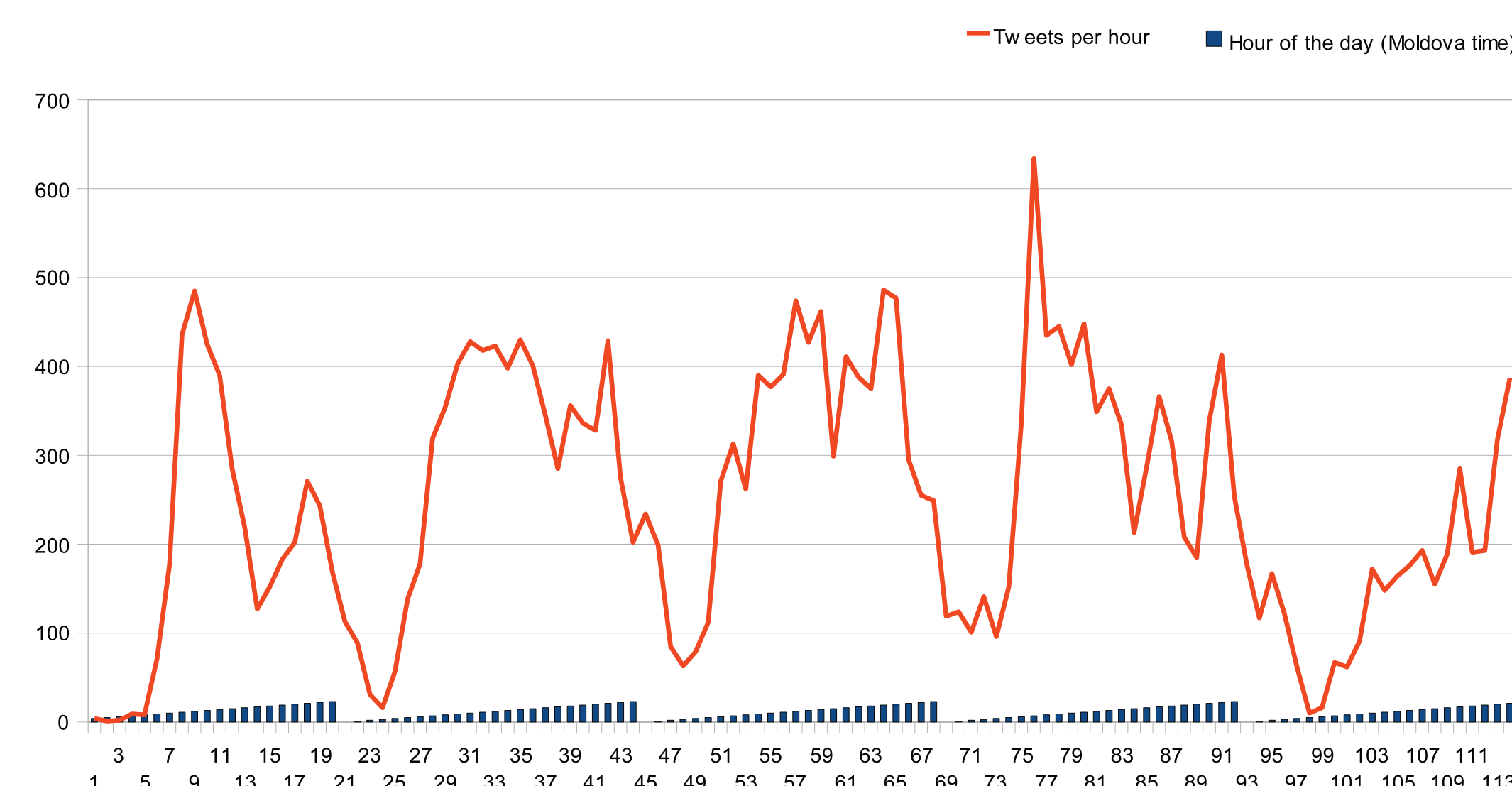
3 days of intense protests, 30,000 people gathered to protest, 200 arrests, 3 young people died #Moldova



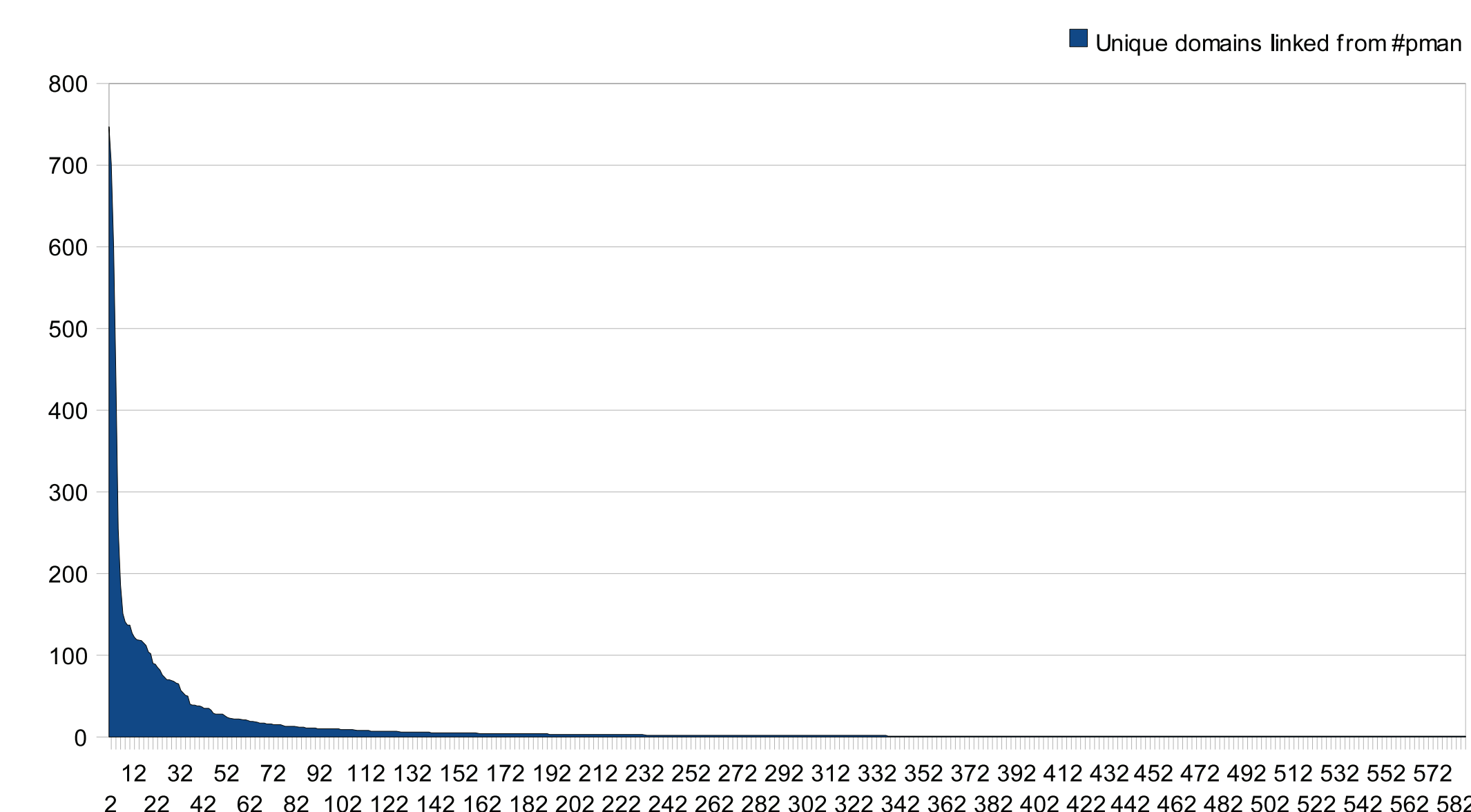
Events labeled as “Twitter Revolution” by international news channels: NYT, Washington Post, BBC, Radio Free Europe, Guardian, France24 #revolution



pman hashtag used on Twitter for messages related to events in Moldova #pman



In the first 5 days of protest in Moldova 28,500 messages with #pman were sent by 1,918 Twitter users. On average there were 14.8 messages per user and 10.7% of “tweets” (messages) contained links #tweets



#pman was an information node for news about events in Moldova. Tweets in Romanian and English were reposted (RT) 2.6 times, on average #retweet

Twitter messages are evidence of digital culture which warrants preservation



The challenge lies in establishing the breadth and depth for archiving the online social network; external URLs contained in tweets provide crucial contextual insights #why



There is a lack of trust when utilizing user-contributed content as primary source for research. Integrity and quality are difficult to verify without the implementation of archiving standards or appropriate documentation #trust

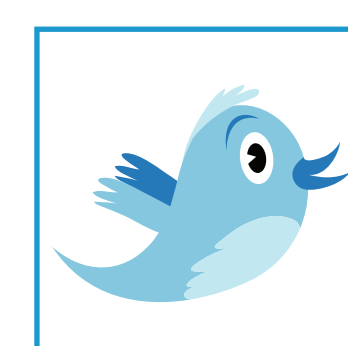


Digital archives have been dedicated to the collection of personal memories and stories from the global community surrounding historic events @911digitalarchive.org; such aggregates serve as models for the future development of access and preservation policies and practices #archive

The availability of online archiving applications and methods for personal use is indicative of the value of this data in society



Twapper Keeper www.twapperkeeper.com offers a complimentary product for archiving posts from multiple users based on the hashtag demarcation



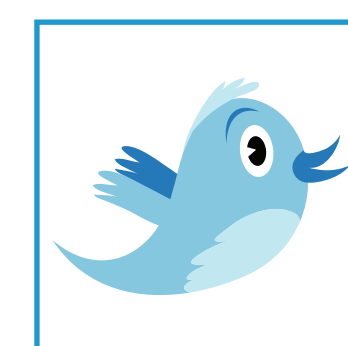
TweetBackup www.tweetbackup.com is a free service that backups all messages posted by a single user account



Tweetake www.tweetake.com developed as a hobby project- this free application saves messages from followers, friends, and favorites which can be exported into Excel or .csv

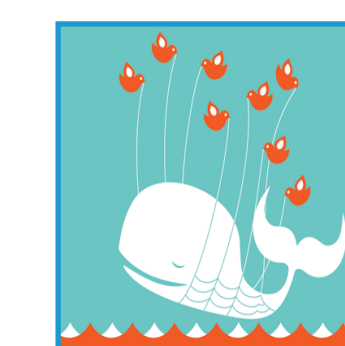


The Archivist www.flotzam.com/archivist is primarily designed as a search tool; this free application offers basic analysis tools and exports archived messages into Excel or XML

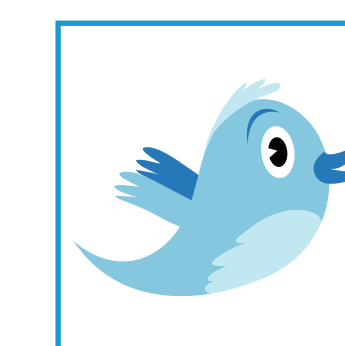


Tweetscan www.tweetscan.com/data.php is a fee-based service with direct access into the Twitter user account to retrieve past message posts and provides annotation capabilities through a web interface

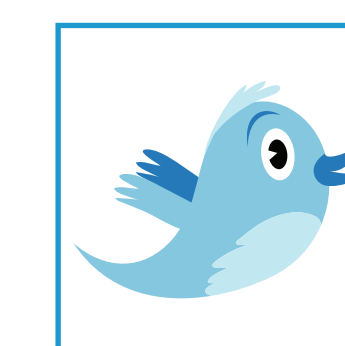
Implications for future LIS and archives professionals



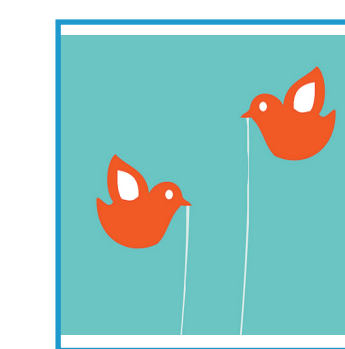
@LIS From the user generated content, how do you decide what to capture? What selection criteria will be implemented? How will this process be documented? #how #what #why



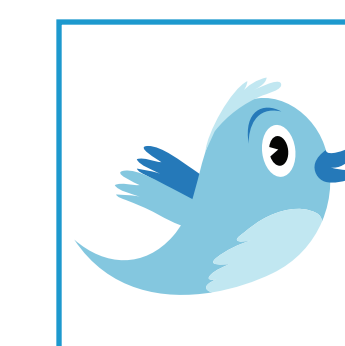
@futureLIS For the aggregation of Twitter messages, what is a dataset or collection going to entail? (text) OR (text + URL) OR (text + URL + URL content) #dataset #collection



@LIS Due to the increase of online archiving applications for public consumption, will self-deposit sites be established by libraries and archives for personal message collections? Potential collaboration with Twitter to develop procedures to harvest messages? #self-deposit



@futureLIS How will the quality and integrity of collected data be ensured? #measures



@LIS How will this user generated content be made accessible? What additional tools or functionalities should be available for scholars and researchers to utilize this resource? #access #tools

Data Source & References

RSS & API used to archive tweets containing #pman from April 7 - May 13, 2009. <xml> archive of 25MB available at <http://people.lis.illinois.edu/~cserban2/pman> thanks @Wordle.net @Traian @Bogdan @www.twitter.com

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